Dear Commerce Committee Members,

As an animal advocate I do not support HB5263, An Act Concerning The Processing of Rabbits for Consumption.

I ask you to vote NO.

- 1- Rabbits are the third most common household pet after dogs and cats
- 2- Due to public pressure, Petco and PetSmart stopped selling pet rabbits.

 They now only display rescue rabbits for adoption the same treatment they give to dogs

They now only display rescue rabbits for adoption – the same treatment they give to dogs and cats.

- 3-Whole Foods and other specialty stores stopped selling rabbit meat after concluding there was no market for sales.
- 4-The multi-billion-dollar cosmetic industry has been moving away from using rabbits and other animals in their testing programs due to consumer pressure.
- 5-While the rest of the country has recognized and elevated rabbits as pets, CT is taking a step backward in proposing this initiative.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely Jaye Markwell 68 Overlook Rd, Winsted, CT 06098